

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S -MR. FRY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119128

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PE, XM

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY TO PERUVIAN  
FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR VALLE

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM SECRETARY  
KISSINGER TO FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR VALLE AT THE  
EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME:
2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR M,GUEL ANGEL: YOUR RECENT LETTER  
COMMENTING ON MATTERS WHICH WE DISCUSSED AT WASHINGTON AND  
ATLANTA WAS FORWARDED TO ME IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND I DID  
NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REPLY UNTIL MY RETURN. NOW THAT  
I AM BACK I HASTEN TO WRITE TO YOU ABOUT THOSE MATTERS AS  
WELL AS THE RESULTS OF MY RECENT EFFORTS TO HELP SYRIA AND  
ISRAEL FIND A WAY TO CEASE HOSTILITIES ALONG THEIR COMMON  
BORDER.
3. IT WAS CLEAR AFTER THE EGYPT-ISRAEL DISENGAGEMENT  
AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED JANUARY 18 THAT A SIMILAR STEP WITH  
RESPECT TO SYRIA AND ISRAEL WOULD BE NECESSARY IF THE  
MOMENTUM TOWARD PEACE THAT WAS BEING GATHERED WAS NOT TO  
BE LOST. HAPPILY, BOTH SYRIA AND ISRAEL EXPRESSED INTEREST  
IN SUCH AN AGREEMENT AND IN UTILIZING AMERICAN GOOD OFFICES  
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TO ACHIEVE IT.

4. WE KNEW THAT THIS WOULD BE A DIFFICULT NEGOTIATION, AND IT WAS INDEED ARDUOUS. THE POSITIONS OF THE PARTIES WERE FAR APART INITIALLY AND IT WAS ONLY THROUGH THE MOST PAINstaking EFFORT THAT THE GAP BETWEEN THEM CLOSED. BUT, I WANT TO STRESS, HOWEVER TENACIOUSLY THE TWO SIDES ADVANCED THEIR POSITIONS, I WAS ALWAYS CONVINCED OF THEIR GOOD FAITH AND SERIOUSNESS OF INTENT. THE DEPLORABLE EVENTS OF MAALOT AND SUBSEQUENT ISRAELI ACTIONS AGAINST TARGETS IN LEBANON DID NOT DIVERT THEM FROM THEIR GOAL. BOTH SIDES CLEARLY WANTED THIS AGREEMENT AND WOULD NOT BE TURNED AWAY FROM IT BY A CHAIN OF EVENTS INSTIGATED BY EXTRA-GOVERNMENTAL ELEMENTS. I BELIEVE THIS CAN BE A GOOD AUGURY FOR THE WHOLE PEACE PROCESS.

5. THE AGREEMENT ITSELF IS WELL DESIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH ITS MAIN PURPOSES. THE CEASE-FIRE IS TO BE SCRUPULOUSLY OBSERVED FROM THE DATE OF ITS SIGNING. THE MILITARY FORCES OF THE TWO SIDES WILL BE SEPARATED BY A BUFFER ZONE AND THE LEVELS OF THEIR ARMAMENTS WILL BE LIMITED ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS ZONE. A UNITED NATIONS FORCE WILL BE EMPLACED TO INSPECT COMPLIANCE. PRISONERS OF WAR AND THE BODIES OF THE DEAD WILL BE EXCHANGED. IN BRIEF, ALL THE PAINFUL, VEXING ELEMENTS EXISTING IN THE SYRIAN-ISRAELI CONFRONTATION THAT HAVE PRODUCED AND PERPETUATED A BLOODY WAR OF ATTRITION IN RECENT MONTHS WILL BE REMOVED OR NEUTRALIZED.

6. WE MUST, OF COURSE, RECOGNIZE REALISTICALLY WHAT THIS AGREEMENT IS NOT. IT IS NOT A PEACE AGREEMENT, AS ITS FINAL PARAGRAPH STATES; IT IS A STEP TOWARD A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE ON THE BASIS OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 338 OF OCTOBER 22, 1973. THE BASIC ISSUES BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA REMAIN, AND IF THIS NEGOTIATION IS ANY INDICATION, THEIR RESOLUTION WILL BE DIFFICULT AND COMPLEX.

7. BUT I BELIEVE WE MAY BE PERMITTED REAL HOPE FOR THE FUTURE BY WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. AS PRESIDENT NIXON HAS SAID, A MAJOR ROADBLOCK TO A PERMANENT SETTLEMENT

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HAS BEEN REMOVED. WE CONSIDER THIS AGREEMENT TO BE A PIVOTAL ONE. FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1949, SYRIA HAS MADE AN AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL; THIS CANNOT FAIL TO HAVE AN INFLUENCE ON OTHER ARAB STATES WHO HAVE RESISTED ANY COMMITMENT TO PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS OF SEEKING PEACE THROUGH NEGOTIATION. FOR ARAB STATES ALREADY EMBARKED ON THIS COURSE THE AGREEMENT CAN ONLY REINFORCE THEIR COMMITMENT. FOR ISRAEL, THE AGREEMENT MEANS A

SURCEASE, IN WHICH ITS OWN THINKING ABOUT THE SHAPE OF ITS FUTURE RELATIONS WITH ITS ARAB NEIGHBORS CAN FURTHER EVOLVE.

8. THE SYRIA-ISRAEL DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT IS AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN A STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS. A FOUNDATION IS NOW ESTABLISHED WITHIN WHICH THE SHOOTING CAN STOP AND PREPARATIONS CAN BEGIN FOR CONSIDERING THOSE BASIC ISSUES THAT WILL BE INVOLVED IN A PEACE AGREEMENT.

9. DURING MY TRAVELS, I REPEATEDLY HEARD FAVORABLE REPORTS ABOUT THE PERUVIAN TROOPS ASSIGNED TO THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING'S EMERGENCY FORCE SERVING IN THE MIDDLE EAST. YOU AND YOUR COUNTRYMEN SHOULD BE JUSTLY PROUD OF THE ROLE THAT THE PERUVIAN MILITARY IS PLAYING IN SUPPORT OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

10. IN YOUR RECENT LETTER YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU ARE CONSIDERING A MAN OF THE CALIBER AND QUALIFICATIONS OF AMBASSADOR GARCIA BEDOYA AS A POSSIBLE CANDIDATE FOR THE SECRETARY GENERALSHIP OF THE OAS. I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE OTHER POSSIBLE CANDIDATES WHICH MAY BE PROPOSED. BEFORE JOINING IN CHOOSING THE PERSON TO FILL THIS IMPORTANT POST, WE SHOULD LIKE TO HEAR THE VIEWS OF ALL THE OAS MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. PLEASE KEEP ME INFORMED OF THE PROGRESS OF THE CANDIDACY OF AMBASSADOR GARCIA BEDOYA.

11. WARMEST REGARDS, HENRY. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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